

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 4 (canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A combination seal, to be incorporated into a bearing unit having a rotatable member and a stationary member, comprising:

a first annular case having a fitting cylindrical portion with a first vertical wall;

a second annular case having a fitting cylindrical portion with a second vertical wall, said first vertical wall extending toward said fitting cylindrical portion of said second annular case; and

an annular seal member provided in said second annular case, said annular seal member being provided with an axial lip having a distal portion which sealingly engages said first vertical wall and with a protruding radial lip inclining further away from said first vertical wall than its leg portion, wherein:

said first annular case and said second annular case are respectively and separately fitted in either of said stationary member and said rotatable member and the other of said stationary member and said rotatable member, in advance, respectively, before they are incorporated into a bearing unit; and

said radial lip directly sealingly engages the outer circumferential wall of said stationary member or said rotatable member after said first annular case and said second annular case are incorporated into said bearing unit.

6. (Previously presented) The combination seal according to claim 5, wherein: said second annular case further has two axial lips.

7. (Previously Presented) The combination seal according to claim 5, wherein: said stationary member and said rotatable member are inner and outer rings which respectively constitute a bearing unit; and

said first annular case is fitted in said rotatable member in advance before incorporation..

8.(Previously Presented) The combination seal according to claim 7, wherein:
said first annular case and said second annular case are fitted into an inner circumference of said stationary member and the outer circumference of said rotatable member such that a circumferential end of said fitting cylindrical portion of said second annular case is disposed inside of said bearing unit than that of said first vertical wall, whereby a spacing gap surrounded by said circumferential end of said fitting cylindrical portion of said second annular case and the inner circumferential surface of said stationary member constitutes a labyrinth portion with an L-shaped section.

9. (Previously Presented) A bearing unit, having:
bearing members interposed between a rotatable member and a stationary member situated in order to allow said rotatable member to rotate relative to said stationary member; and
a combination seal between said rotatable member and said stationary member, said combination seal comprising:
a first annular case having a fitting cylindrical portion with a first vertical wall; a second annular case having a fitting cylindrical portion with a second vertical wall, said first vertical wall extending toward said fitting cylindrical portion of said second annular case; and
an annular seal member provided in said second annular case, said annular seal member being provided with an axial lip having a distal portion which sealingly engages said first vertical wall and with a protruding radial lip inclining further away from said first vertical wall than its leg portion, wherein:
said first annular case and said second annular case are separately fitted in either of said stationary member and said rotatable member and the other of said stationary member and said rotatable member, in advance, respectively, before they are incorporated into the bearing unit; and
said radial lip directly sealingly engages the outer circumferential wall of said stationary member or said rotatable member after said first annular case and said second annular case are incorporated into the bearing unit. .